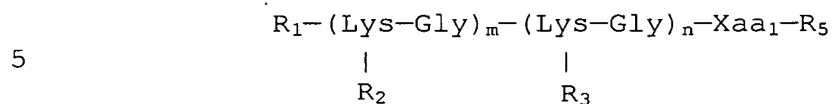


What is claimed is:

1. A multiple antigenic agent comprising:



## Formula I

(SEQ ID NO:1) wherein,  $R_1$  is 0 to 2 amino acid residues comprising Cys or Gly or a nucleic acid sequence;  $m$  is at least 1;  $n$  is at least 1;  $\text{Xaa}_1$  is 0 to 1 amino acid residue comprising Lys- $R_4$ ;  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , are independently a B cell determinant, a T cell determinant, or targeting molecule; and  $R_5$  is any amino acid, peptide, or nucleic acid sequence.

- 15        2. The multiple antigenic agent of claim 1, wherein the B cell determinant comprises the ectodomain of matrix protein 2 or a homolog thereof.

- 20        3. The multiple antigenic agent of claim 1, wherein the  $R_1$  of a first and second multiple antigenic agent is Cys-Gly and said Cys residue of said first and second multiple antigenic agent are covalently linked to produce a dimer.

- 25        4. A composition comprising the multiple antigenic agent of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. The composition of claim 4, wherein the composition further comprises an adjuvant.

6. The composition of claim 4, wherein the composition comprises a vaccine.

7. The composition of claim 5, wherein the  
5 composition comprises a vaccine.

8. A method for preventing or treating a viral infection comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a composition of claim 4 to prevent or  
10 treat the signs or symptoms of a viral infection.

9. A method for preventing or treating a viral infection comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a composition of claim 5 to prevent or  
15 treat the signs or symptoms of a viral infection.

10. A method for preventing or treating a viral infection comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a composition of claim 6 to prevent or  
20 treat the signs or symptoms of a viral infection.

11. A method for preventing or treating a viral infection comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a composition of claim 7 to prevent or  
25 treat the signs or symptoms of a viral infection.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the viral infection comprises influenza type A virus.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the viral  
5 infection comprises influenza type A virus.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein the viral infection comprises influenza type A virus.

10 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the viral infection comprises influenza type A virus.